

Let's Get Acquainted—

By Ruby M. Compton

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The Kraig Ford family

Kraig R. Ford was born April 27, 1948, in the old Heber

grades, and Dee Mecham who taught fourth, fifth, and sixth

left to go to the West Spanish American Mission which consisted of Spanish speaking people in California, Arizona and Nevada. His work was that of helping and converting Spanish speaking migrant workers in Cal. and Ariz. who worked mainly in the greater Phoenix and Santa Monica and

Hollywood areas. Some of these people were employees of entertainment personalities of the areas. He completed his mission in 1969, and enrolled in studies at B.Y.U. in Provo. While there he met Penny Hergonson; they were married May 14, 1971.

Susan Penelope Hergonson, known as Penny, was born Sept. 5, 1951 in Butler, Penn. She was the second of three children born to Robert Walter and Ruth Alice Curtis Hergonson. Her mother died in March of 1983. Penny's father was a salesman and her mother was a children's librarian and a collector of first edition books. Penny was raised in Syracuse, New York until she was in her junior year of high school, then the family moved to San Francisco, Calif. Penny graduated from Ygnacio Valley High School in 1969. She was 16th in a class of 600 students.

Penny's family moved to Bellflower, near Long Beach in southern California, and Pen-

Their second child, a son, Chris, was born in the Stritch Medical Center in Chicago, on Dec. 6, 1973. While they lived in the duplex in Cicero, they found the people, who were of Polish and Czechoslovakian extraction, were very kind and interesting. While Kraig attended the dental school in Chicago, they joined a fraternity of L.D.S. members and enjoyed them very much. Their summers were interesting and were spent in Utah where Kraig worked with Mack Adams of the Forest Department. He returned to Chicago each autumn until he graduated in 1976. He took his "State Boards" at Portland, Oregon and passed them. At long last, they could come home to live in Heber Valley!

In 1976, Kraig and Penny came to live in Midway, Ut. They rented a house just across the road from the post office. That fall, on Oct. 14, 1976, their second daughter, Erin, was born in the Wasatch County Hospital in Heber.

About two years ago, they bought their first house and moved into it. The house is just west of Eldon Wright's home on Midway Lane.

When Kraig came to Heber to practice dentistry, he was an associate of Dr. Glade Tregaskis for two years. He said Dr. Tregaskis is the most kind humanitarian man he has ever

Hospital. He was the first of five children born to Reed and Velma Mecham Ford. He was raised in Wallsburg, Utah, a town named for Kraig's great, great grandfather, Captain William Madison Wall, a prominent man in the pioneering days of Utah and Wasatch County areas. Kraig's father was a farmer in Wallsburg. They raised and shipped turkeys, ran a 5,000 chicken business and operated a dairy farm. The Ford family is an industrious, hard working family who have kept their religious and civic activities in high esteem. Reed Ford was recently released as Stake President, when Wasatch County advanced from two to three stakes.

Kraig attended elementary school in Wallsburg. A small group of children from the little community and surrounding farms were taught by Mrs. Beal who taught kindergarten, Jevenita Montgomery Hamblin, who taught first, second, and third

grades. The children were bussed to Heber Junior High for their seventh grade through high school. Kraig bussed to Heber in 1959 and one year later the Wallsburg Elementary was closed down. The property has since been converted into a private home.

While in the ninth grade, Kraig was elected class president. From the earliest opportunity he joined the FFA, he held various positions in this organization such as: being on the judging teams, reporter, vice president, won a state farmer award, also won an FFA scholarship award which he used to go to Utah State University. He was studentbody president for seminary. In athletics he was a letterman in basketball and

track and field. He set the regional record in running the 880 yard run and held the record five or more years. Kraig graduated from Wasatch High School in 1966.

At the end of his first school year, at Utah State University, he was called to serve an LDS Church Mission. In that school year, he and Kent Berg were roommates and they both enjoyed their classes. Kraig served on the Independent Student Council as a representative. He claimed no major that year, but studied general education and enjoyed the social life.

In the spring of 1967, Kraig

received a scholarship from B.Y.U. Though she was a non-member of the LDS Church, she moved to Provo and attended the university for two years. Penny joined the LDS Church in 1970, and her sister joined the church in 1975, while she was a student at B.Y.U. They are the only members of their family to do so. Penny majored in drama during her two years at B.Y.U.

Penny and Kraig met while they were students there and were married in the Salt Lake LDS Temple on May 14, 1971.

Kraig's Mission President, Homer Royal, was a dentist, and he had influenced Kraig to attend the pre-med. and pre-dental classes at BYU as they had some good programs there. He was accepted to dental school at Loyola University in Chicago in the fall of 1972, one year before he was to have graduated from B.Y.U.

Their first child, Kirsten, was born on March 16, 1972, in Utah Valley Hospital, and they moved to Chicago in the fall of 1972.

They found an apartment in a high rise building in the downtown area and lived there two years. They learned to appreciate the city of Chicago for its varied cultural and social values. At the end of two years they decided to move to the suburb of Cicero, just three miles from Kraig's dental school. The children of Kraig and Penny are now getting older and taking part in many activities. Kirsten is 12 years old, a 7th grader at Middle School where she plays flute in the band. She has taken tap, jazz, and ballet for seven years, and auditioned for and was accepted into the Janet Gray Jr. Performing group. She has danced for Utah Jazz half-times, the Festival of Trees, the Snowbird Youth Festival and many other events.

met. He also taught Kraig much about dentistry and business management. He is very grateful for all of this. However, Kraig felt it was time to be in his own offices.

He has been operating his own practice of dentistry, located at 340 North Main in Heber City, since 1978.

The family enjoys camping, hiking, scuba diving, and skiing. Kraig still runs in 10,000 meter runs and 26.2 mile marathons. He has kept active in church service: in 1977, he was called to be Ward Clerk in Midway Second Ward; in 1978 he was called to serve as Second Counselor to Bishop Ed Kelly, with Grant Patch as First Counselor and John Price was made Second Counselor to Bishop Ed Kelly.

Penny has been busy with her family and her work in the Relief Society, where she is Compassionate Service Leader. She still enjoys drama and music; Kraig says that she is very good in music. She and her sister, who lives in Salt Lake, have shared their mother's first edition book collection and she hopes to add to it.

Their son, Chris Ford, is almost 11 years old, a fifth grader at Midway Elementary. He takes gymnastics from Bev Lloyd and took 6th place in a state gymnastics competition two years ago. He likes to wrestle and has been invited to break dance at the Festival of Trees this year.

Daughter Erin Ford is eight years old, and in second grade at Midway Elementary. She loves school, especially reading. She also has taken dance for four years and has danced at Snowbird and the Festival of Trees.

The last baby girl, Chelsea, is four months old. She was born at Utah Valley Hospital.

Yours is a happy, busy family, Kraig and Penny, and we hope all of you continue in health and happiness.